

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/617,914	FISCHER ET AL.	
	Examiner RAMON O. RAMIREZ	Art Unit 3632	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to amendment filed May 5, 2005.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2 and 4-17.
3. The drawings filed on 08 January 2005 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some*
 - c) None
 of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 4/13/05.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Jeffrey Sokol on May 23, 2005.

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

a) Status identifier of the claims

claim 3, the status identifier has been changed to -- cancelled --;

claim 12, the status identifier has been changed to -- currently amended --.

b) Claims

claim 3 has been cancelled;

claim 1, line 21, "extending toward and engaging" has been changed to -- adapted to extend toward and engage -- has been inserted;

claim 4, line 1, "Claim 3" has been changed to -- Claim 1 --, and in line 2, after "body is", -- adapted to be -- has been inserted;

claim 5, line 2, after "dimension" (first occurrence), -- adapted to be -- has been inserted;

claim 6, line 1, after "said body is", -- adapted to be -- has been inserted;

claim 7, line 2, after "being" -- adapted to be -- has been inserted;

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claim 8, line 1, after "brace is", - - adapted to be - - has been inserted;

claim 10, line 3, "and transfer" has been changed to - - and adapted to - -

claim 12, line 11, "more fully engaging" has been changed to

- - adapted to more fully engage - -;

claim 13, line 3, after "aligned", - - and adapted - - has been inserted;

claim 14, line 8, after "dimension", - - adapted to be - - has been inserted, and in

line 10, after "dimension", - - adapted to be - - has been inserted;

claim 16, line 2 "after upper arm", - - are adapted to - - has been inserted;

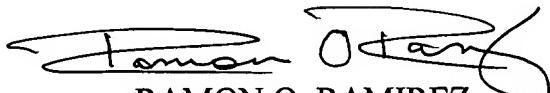
claim 17, line 3, after "being", adapted to be - - has been inserted.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to RAMON O. RAMIREZ whose telephone number is (571) 272-6821. The examiner can normally be reached on MONDAY-FRIDAY, IST FRIDAY OFF.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, LESLIE BRAUN can be reached on (571) 272-6815. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



RAMON O. RAMIREZ
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3632

ROR
May 24, 2005